

FINAL MINUTES

JOINT MEETING of the STATE REVIEW BOARD and HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD

June 8, 2006 (Thursday)

10:00 a.m.

Science Museum of Virginia, Forum Room
2500 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23220

State Review Board Members Present

Warren Hofstra, Chair
Carl Lounsbury
Ann Alexander
Madison Spencer

Historic Resources Board Members Present

Addison Thompson, Chair
Patrick Butler
Jeanne Evans
Ora McCoy
Helen Murphy

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Kathleen Kilpatrick, Director
Catherine Slusser, Deputy Director
Francine Archer
Ann Andrus
Mike Barber
Camille Bowman
Bob Carter
Joanie Evans
Taryn Harrison
Randy Jones

Calder Loth
Jean McRae
Michael Pulice
Olga Skorackyj
Susan Smead
Kelly Spradley-Kurowski
Elizabeth Tune
Marc Wagner

Interns: Sam Thomas and Lee Lovelace

JOINT SESSION

State Review Board (SRB)

Chair Hofstra called the State Review Board meeting to order shortly after 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. He explained the role of the board then asked the members to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the March 8, 2006 meeting were approved with a motion from Ms. Alexander and a second from Mr. Lounsbury. Under new business, Chair Hofstra acknowledged Ms. Barbara Heath's contribution to the Board and announced her resignation from the Board following the June meeting. There was no old business.

Historic Resources Board (HRB)

Chair Thompson called the Historic Resources Board meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. He explained the role of the board then asked each member to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the March 8, 2006 meeting were approved with a motion from Mr. Butler and a second from Ms. Evans. There was no new or old business.

Director's Report (DHR)

Director Kilpatrick welcomed everyone in attendance, including The Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr., the Secretary of Natural Resources. She welcomed new DHR staff, Dr. Michael Barber, State Archaeologist, and Ms. Francine Archer, Highway Marker Manager and Diversity Initiative Contact. She introduced Mr. Joseph Elton and Ms. Theresa Layman from the Department of Conservation and Recreation, in attendance for the State Park nominations, and she acknowledged four new interns joining the DHR staff for the summer.

Director Kilpatrick updated the Boards on special initiatives, such as Werocomoco, Lumpkins Jail, and the Time Travelers exhibit; and provided updates on Capital Square, Fort Monroe, the budget, and battlefield easements. Finally, she highlighted some items on the day's agenda then introduced Secretary Bryant. Secretary Bryant spoke of the governor's agenda for Virginia's resources and thanked Director Kilpatrick for the opportunity to be in attendance.

Chair Hofstra explained the Board meeting process and expressed the need for a consent agenda vote prior to presentations due to a loss of quorum for the SRB shortly after 11:30 a.m. He asked if there were any reasons any of the 31 nominations needed to be addressed separately, explaining that he would have to excuse himself for a separate vote on the Crumley-Lynn-Lodge House nomination due to a conflict of interest.

Ms. Wilkerson, a descendant of the original Belle Grove family, stood and asked for clarification on the listing process and what it would mean for the owners of the property as well as the adjacent owners, since family continued to own property surrounding the proposed registered property of Belle Grove. Chair Hofstra reiterated the honorary status of listing and the process by which each Board voted.

There were no objections to the rest of the nominations being voted on as a group and with a motion from Mr. Lounsbury and a second from Mr. Spencer all the nominations were approved except the Crumley-Lynn-Lodge House by the SRB. Chair Thompson asked for a vote from the HRB, and with a motion from Ms. Murphy and a second from Mr. Butler, all 31 nominations presented on the agenda were approved for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register. Chair Hofstra then excused himself, and Vice-Chair Lounsbury called for a vote on the Crumley-Lynn-Lodge House nomination. With a motion from Ms. Alexander and a second from Mr. Spencer, this nomination was also approved by the SRB. Finally, Chair Hofstra called for the presentation of the nominations, beginning with the State-Owned resources.

Register Nomination Presentations:

Mr. Wagner presented the following State-Owned nominations:

1. Virginia Civilian Conservation Corps State Parks Multiple Property Document, #134-5088
2. Fairy Stone State Park, Patrick County, #070-0057
3. Hungry Mother State Park, Smyth County, #086-0015
4. Staunton River State Park, Halifax County, #041-0100

There was a short break at which time Secretary Bryant, Director Kilpatrick, Mr. Elton, Ms. Layman, and the Board Chairs stood for a photo opportunity to celebrate the listing of the State Park nominations and MPD. Then Ms. Smead presented (5) The Aviator (statue) in Albemarle County; Mr. Wagner presented (6) Clarkton Bridge in Charlotte County; and Mr. Loth presented (7) Finance Building in the City of Richmond.

There was another short break after which the Boards recommenced at 11:30 a.m.

Ms. Evans presented the following nominations for the Winchester Region:

8. Belle Grove, Fauquier County, #030-0008, Criteria A and C
9. Blue Ridge Farm, Fauquier County, #030-0894, Criteria A and C
10. Claremont HD, Arlington County, #000-9700, Criteria A and C
11. Crumley-Lynn-Lodge House, Frederick County, #034-0152, Criterion C
12. Graves Mill, Madison County, #056-0015, Criteria A and C
13. Meadow Grove, Rappahannock County, #078-0059, Criteria A and C
14. Rose Cliff, City of Waynesboro, #136-5051, Criteria A and C

The following audience comment followed:

Ms. de Givé, owner of Belle Grove, thanked those involved in making the nomination happen. Mr. Graves introduced all those in attendance for the Grave's Mill nomination and expressed his appreciation to the consultant

and others involved in the restoration and nomination of the mill. Chair Thompson thanked all those involved in the support for preservation of their historic properties.

Mr. Pulice presented the following for the Roanoke Region:

15. East Church Street/Starling Avenue Historic District, City of Martinsville, #120-5002, Criteria A and C with Criterion Consideration A
16. First Baptist Church, City of Lexington, #117-0027-0063, Criteria A and C w/Criterion Consideration A
17. Hickory Hill, Rockbridge County, #081-0022, Criterion C
18. Kelly View School, Wise County, #097-0308, Criterion A with Criterion Consideration B
19. Kentland Archaeology Amendment, Montgomery County, #060-0202, Criteria A, B, C, and D
20. Roanoke Apartments (Terrace Apartments), City of Roanoke, #128-6066, Criteria A and C
21. R.L. Stone House, Town of Bassett, Henry County, #044-5174, Criteria B and C

Ms. Bowman presented (22) the King William Training School in King William County after which several people connected to the school introduced themselves. Ms. Minor spoke of her memories of living adjacent to the school and teaching there, and Mr. Holmes, former student, thanked everyone. Rev. Dr. Wagner, Pamunkey Baptist Association, thanked all those involved and mentioned that the school is now owned by the PBA and used as a community center.

Finally Ms. Andrus presented the following for the Capital Region:

23. Brightly, Goochland County, #037-0004, Criterion C
24. Edgewood, Amherst County, #163-0003, Criterion C
25. Elliott Grays Marker, City of Richmond, #127-6150-0002, Criterion A with Criterion Consideration F
26. Fifth and Main Historic District, City of Richmond, #127-6071, Criteria A and C
27. Nance-Major House and Store Complex, Charles City County, #018-0078, Criteria A and C
28. Oak Lawn, Amherst County, #005-5029, Criteria B and C
29. Schuyler Historic District, Nelson County, #062-5002, Criteria A and C
30. Somerset, Powhatan County, #072-0040, Criterion C
31. Tyro Mill, Nelson County, #062-0028, Criteria A and C

Mr. Lounsbury commented on the excellent nomination written for the Nance-Major House and Store, and then with a motion from Ms. Alexander and a second from Mr. Lounsbury, the SRB adjourned for a lunch break. With a motion from Mr. Butler and a second from Ms. Evans the HRB also adjourned for the break.

Lunch was served in the Discovery Room.

HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD

Chair Thompson brought the HRB to order at 2 p.m.

Ms. McRae presented the following Highway markers for approval:

1. Buffalo Springs, Mecklenburg County, Route 58 near Buffalo Springs Road
2. The Deaf and Blind School, City of Hampton, Shell Rd in front of school entrance
3. Defenses of Richmond, Henrico County, Route 895 in Henrico
4. First Battle of Deep Bottom, Henrico County, .6 mile east of intersection of Long Bridge Road and Route 5
5. Lancaster Courthouse, Lancaster County, Route 3 at the courthouse
6. Rappahannock Indians, Richmond County, Route 3 at Totuskey Bridge
7. Zuni, Isle of Wight County, Route 460 at Zuni

With a motion from Ms. Evans and a second from Ms. McCoy, all 7 markers were approved. Chair Thompson commented on the precision of the texts and their lack of need for edits. He then asked the folks involved in the Kroger/Carver Industrial Historic District situation to present their material.

Mr. Walk, an attorney with Hirschler Fleischer, presented information on behalf of the Kroger Company. He described a lack of mapping and information available to the average person regarding registration status within a historic district. He presented the difference in the “location” mapping located on the front page of the nomination and the detailed “boundary description” mapping noted later in the nomination. He pointed out concerns as the concentration of “historic” versus “non-historic” resources represented in the district. Finally, Mr. Walk asked the HRB to consider amending the nomination proactive to the time of first listing to remove the parcel on which the Kroger now stands, thus saying the nomination was originally approved in error.

Mr. Wagner explained the difference in the two descriptions and the mapping of the nomination as the way in which the nominations have been consistently written based upon the National Park Service’s National Register form, which the state of Virginia uses for their listings as well. He described the “industrial” and “residential” districts of the Carver neighborhoods and talked of a resource’s value not necessarily in beauty, but in historic context. He explained that the 1906 warehouse was still in use at the time of the nomination within which it was listed as a contributing resource, and though it may not have been reusable as a grocery store it was indeed still a historic building.

Chair Thompson asked the procedure for removing the parcel from the district and amending the nomination. However, Mr. Walk explained that would not suit Kroger’s need for the demolished warehouse building to have been considered a non-contributing resource all along, thereby amending the nomination as having been done originally in error.

Chair Thompson expressed the need to move onto the easement portion of the meeting and thanked the individuals from Hirschler Fleischer and Kroger for their presentation of material. He also noted that the HRB does not rewrite history and the matter of whether Kroger knew of its inclusion in a historic district really was a matter for the city, as was the issue of the permit to allow demolition of the historic warehouse building on the parcel. Finally, Chair Thompson said the HRB would take the information under advisement and discuss the matter with the DHR.

Ms. Tune and Mr. Loth presented the following easements accepted since the March 2006 meeting:

1. The Breakthrough Battlefield, Petersburg
2. Ely Mound Archaeological Site, Lee County
3. Green Falls, Caroline County
4. Lynnhaven House, Virginia Beach
5. Mason House, Accomack County
6. Planters Bank of Fredericksburg, Fredericksburg
7. Preston House, Salem

Ms. Tune and Mr. Loth then presented the following easement offers for consideration:

1. Fleetwood Heights, Culpeper County
2. Hill Property, Hanover County
3. Hutchinson Lot, South Parcel
4. Kelly’s Ford, Culpeper County
5. Reed Square, St. John’s Church Historic District, Richmond
6. Turner-Sinton House, St. John’s Church Historic District, Richmond
7. Shield Property, Hanover County
8. Slaughter Pen Farm, Spotsylvania County
9. Tuckahoe, Goochland County
10. Wayne Theater, Waynesboro Downtown Historic District, Waynesboro

Chair Thompson stepped out of the room while the presentation and vote was taken for the Tuckahoe Plantation. With a motion from Ms. Murphy and a second from Ms. McCoy, the Tuckahoe easement offer was approved. Then with Chair Thompson again present and with a motion from Mr. Butler and a second from Ms. Evans all the other easement offers were approved by the HRB.

Mr. Loth and Ms. Tune presented the property of Elk Hill for an approval for the potential buyers to improve an access right-of-way that runs along the edge of the Elk Hill property to an adjacent property which they also plan to purchase. Mr. Chaffin presented the proposal for improvements to the right-of-way as well as their plans for development of the adjacent site to Elk Hill. He and Mrs. Chaffin plan to live at Elk Hill and develop a planned community on the adjacent property. After discussion back and forth between the Board members, the DHR staff, and Mr. Chaffin, Director Kilpatrick asked that the Chaffin's present their material when they have a more committed proposal. With a motion from Ms. Evans and a second from Mr. Butler, the HRB voted to defer their consideration of the Elk Hill matter after DHR staff had worked more with Mr. and Mrs. Chaffin.

Finally, Ms. Tune presented an easement amendment for the Greystone property in the town of Waterford in Loudoun County, and with a motion from Ms. Evans and a second from Mr. Butler an easement amendment for the pool parcel on the property was approved.

With a motion from Ms. Murphy and a second from Mr. Butler, the HRB adjourned for the afternoon.

STATE REVIEW BOARD

Preliminary Information Applications

Vice-Chair Lounsbury brought the SRB to order around 1:30 p.m. in the Discovery Room of the Science Museum for consideration of the Preliminary Information Applications (informal guidance session).

Board Members (b) and Staff (s) present: Warren Hofstra (b), Carl Lounsbury (b), Ann Alexander (b), Camille Bowman (s), Joanie Evans (s), Mike Pulice (s), Catherine Slusser (s), Susan Smead (s), Kelly Spradley-Kurowski (s), and Marc Wagner(s)

Guests (from sign in sheet): Richard Hixson (Johnson School), Doug Kline (Chrisman House), Win Meiselman (Merrybrook), Margaret Thomas (Merrybrook), Edith Willis (Merrybrook), Susan Russell (Leeds Manor Road Historic District), Lindsay Sagsten (Leeds Manor Road Historic District), William Stribling (Leeds Manor Road Historic District)

All proposals were *endorsed*, unless noted otherwise in the following comments.

Items with owner attendance and Public Comment/Discussion (change of order from printed agenda)

1. John Chrisman House, Rockingham County, DHR File #082-0112 (presented by Joanie Evans)

Staff Comments: The John Chrisman house is a two-story, double-pile, central-passage masonry building with rear ells on each end of the main block. The south ell is a two-story four-bay wing with central chimney, while the north ell is a smaller one-story two-bay ell. The original brickwork survives, in 3,4,5, and 6 course American bond on the south ell, and Flemish bond on the façade and north ell. Both ells have molded brick cornices, there are decorative sidelights on the first and second floor entrances, decorative trim on the porch survives, and a belt course nearly surrounds the house. The windows are double-hung sash, 9/6, 4/2 and 2/2, and the roof is gabled. A late 19th or early 20th century barn is located at the back of the property. The house was originally built by John Chrisman as a house and store around 1835, and operated under several owners until the 1940s. It was considered locally under Criteria A and C with a period of significance from circa 1835 to 1940s, in the areas of Architecture and Commerce. It was recommended **eligible at 33 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: This PIF provides no indication of why the John Chrisman House might rise to the level of National Register significance under either Criterion A or C. Presumably a store is important to the community of people who depend upon it for a variety of economic and social functions. These will have to be fully explored in the National Register nomination to follow. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

2. Leeds Manor Road Rural Historic District, Fauquier County, DHR File # 030-5428 (presented by Joanie Evans)

Some discussion was had among representatives for the district and the Board as to the possibility of changing the name of the district to “John Marshall’s Leeds Manor Rural Historic District”, as the Marshall family was so significant to much of the resources in the district. The Board agreed to the change.

Staff Comments: The resource is a revised PIF originally from January— David Edwards, reporting by conference call, noted that the boundaries of the proposed district had been revised to include a 15,000 acre section of northwest Fauquier County, for which he could confirm eligibility after having driven the area. The organizing feature of the proposed district is Leeds Manor Road, Lord Fairfax’s travel route from his Falmouth home to his lodge at Greenway Court in Clarke County. The boundaries run to the north just past Kettle Run, to the Rappahannock River on the southwest, and follow the route of Hume Road to the south. Most land is active agricultural land, and the village of Markham is the only commercial center. The terrain includes rolling, open pastures edged by woods, numerous creeks and mountain vistas. The architectural resources included in the district are usually domestic buildings ranging from the mid-18th century to the mid-20th century, and many are associated with agricultural complexes. Occasional churches and schools are also present, as are numerous mills, which necessitated the clearing of area roadways, contributing to the district’s transportation context. There are approximately 450 contributing resources within the proposed district, some of which are National Register-listed or National Register-eligible. The architectural and landscape resources retain a high degree of integrity. The district was considered under Criteria A and C with a period of significance circa 1763-1956, in the areas of Settlement, Agriculture, Architecture, Military and Transportation. The committee removed the Military context, but recommended **eligible with 34 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: This extraordinarily complete and thoughtful PIF promises an excellent National Register nomination for the Leeds Manor Road Historic District. The significance statement of this PIF indicates at least five thematic areas under which the district would be eligible for the Register under Criterion A. It further states that each of the specific resources of the district demonstrate one or more of these areas. The completed nomination should be as specific as possible in linking these resources to themes of significance. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

3. Merrybrook, Fairfax County, DHR File # 029-0245 (presented by Joanie Evans)

Win Meiselman, owner, spoke briefly on Laura Ratcliffe’s importance to the Merrybrook’s location, her desire to register Merrybrook and protect it from encroaching development.

Staff Comments: Merrybrook was considered at a meeting February 23rd. The minutes read: “The resource is a rambling vernacular farmhouse that may have late 18th and 19th century sections. It is predominantly 2-story, frame with some simple Greek Revival and Victorian stylistic features—mostly a simple gabled rectilinear assemblage. There are several historic outbuildings on the 4-acre property. The house served as the primary residence for Laura Ratcliffe from 1883-1923. Ratcliffe is best known for her personal relationship with Confederate figures J.E.B. Stuart and J.S. Mosby. She is reputed to have been a Confederate spy. The WRPO has visited the site and observed that the 18th century date is unlikely, based on dimensions and interior finishes and details. The resource is recommended locally significant under Criteria B (Ratcliffe) and C (Architecture), with a period of significance of 1793 (?) to 1956. **The committee chose to defer and requested more information about Ratcliffe’s activities while living at this house.** Since her critical historic period was almost 20 years before she became a resident at this house, the Committee wanted to know whether she was involved in activity that extended her Civil War legacy. Did she lecture, write and get involved in the Lost Cause movement?” Current Meeting: More information was received from the applicant regarding Laura Ratcliffe’s activities in this house. Her post-Civil War life does not seem to have been historically significant, though there remains debate about whether Laura Ratcliffe’s family owned this house during her period of activity in the Civil War. The committee debated whether this house was the best representation of her life, as there is also a gravesite currently being considered for a highway marker. One point was removed for setting, due to the surrounding heavy development, but a point was added for archaeological potential and one for its visual prominence as a landmark. The committee recommended **eligible with 32 points** (criteria and level of significance remain the same).

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: Laura Ratcliffe’s “courageous and unswerving devotion to the Southern cause” during the Civil War might be a hard case upon which to base an argument for the significance of this resource, considering the moral ambiguities and political liabilities of that cause. Loyalty to the Confederacy should not be separated from the purposes for which Confederate governments stood. This is not to say that a case cannot be made for the significance of this resource under Criterion B for Laura Ratcliffe’s role in the Civil War, but it is to say that the complex meaning the conflict and Ratcliffe’s contribution to its development should be fully explored in the National Register nomination to follow. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

4. James Weldon Johnson School, York County, DHR File # 099-5264 (presented by Camille Bowman)

Staff Comments: The resource is an architect designed 1950s masonry (brick and concrete block) school, appearing to have predominately International style form and detailing. The large one-story school was built in 1954 and replaced a brick 1920s Rosenwald School that burned in 1953 (there is some confusion about fire and construction dates in the PIF that need to be addressed). The Rosenwald era school complex also featured a frame teacher’s cottage and a shop building. There are no above ground resources dating to the Rosenwald period, but the Committee thought that the site of former buildings should be confirmed and if they are relatively undisturbed, and their potential as contributing sites should be assessed (see further comments below). The Fisk University Rosenwald records show images of these older school resources. Presently, York County has two schools that were built in the segregated education period, before 1968, and no other educational resources that relate to segregation era Black history. The Frederick Douglass School also dates to 1954, but was built as an elementary school on land that was not associated with earlier African American school facilities. The Weldon School was the middle and high school for all of York County’s African-American population. The presenter confirmed the general exclusivity of the resource with York County Deputy Superintendent Richard Hixson. The Committee had noted previously that there were very recent metal awnings that interrupted the simple 1950s design. Mr. Hixson noted, in his conversation with the presenter, that the awnings were to be removed as part of the rehabilitation project (reported to the Committee). The resource is recommended locally significant under Criterion A (Ethnic Heritage: Black; Education), Criterion Exception G (Significance of less than 50 years), with a period of significance of 1954 to 1968 (the period that the school remained segregated, including the Massive Resistance period). The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **31 points**. The Committee asked that the client be aware of several points if they proceed to develop a nomination:

- 1) There was a Rosenwald School and teachers cottage--possibly other buildings--on the site before the present school. Do we know if the sites of these earlier buildings are undisturbed archaeological sites? We are not requiring any extensive study, but if the Rosenwald period building sites were not built over, it may help the effort for listing the 1954 school. We may require some testing, if the sites may still be intact around or near the present school. I have photos of the Rosenwald period buildings, but I don't have any site plans that show where they were on the present campus.
- 2) There is a list of distinguished graduates mentioned in the application. We would like to know more about these graduates, as well as others who might be highlighted as local, regional and state leaders. We would expect more elaboration on the social aspects of the institution in the formal application.
- 3) Was this 1954, rather large, school a standard VA Dept. of Education plan? Who was the architect? Was it a Black architect?
- 4) The school is larger when compared to other separate 1940s and 1950s facilities for African Americans, around the state. Is there a reason that York County would have been more progressive in their approach to African American education?

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: How the significance of the Weldon Johnson School will be argued in a National Register nomination is difficult to discern from this PIF. The Rosenwald connection (for which an excellent MPD statement exists) is tenuous at best. But clearly it is the role of this school in the African-American community of York County that will provide an argument for significance of this resources under Criteria A or B. This role must be more fully explored in the development of the completed nomination. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

Winchester Region.....Presented by Joanie Evans

5. Hawthorne, City of Winchester, DHR File # 138-0030

Staff Comments: Hawthorne is a two-story, white-washed field stone dwelling with a hipped roof and one interior brick chimney. The windows are 6/6 double-hung sash. The original dwelling was built in 1765, but rebuilt in 1811, and now stands as an example of the transition from Late-Georgian to Federal-Style architecture. A wrap-around porch, observable in a WPA photograph, was added to the house before 1936, but removed after the property was surveyed in 1968. It now has a four-room plan with a front hall and lateral staircase, and a rear brick wing was added between 1811 and 1856. The town spring/spring house is located on the property, but is owned by the City of Winchester, and a circa 1915 garage is also on the property. Both buildings are contributing. The property was considered locally under Criterion C with a period of significance of circa 1811-circa 1915. The committee recommended **eligible** at **33 points**, but requested that the City of Winchester allow the spring/spring house to be included in a forthcoming nomination.

Board Comments: The Board requested that the potential for Criterion B to be included in a nomination be explored further, for its association with the McDonald family during the Civil War.

6. Virginia Oak Tannery, Page County, DHR File # 159-5058

Staff Comments: The resource is an industrial complex begun circa 1880, with numerous additions to the complex, the last of which was in approximately 1941. The main tannery building, constructed in the 1880s, is a long, narrow multi-story steel reinforced poured concrete structure with a clerestory and brick smokestack. Other extant buildings include a one-story structure for finishing leather with an addition wrapped in corrugated metal, and a one-story painted concrete structure that was perhaps a powerhouse. Both of these relate stylistically to the main tannery building. A narrow concrete block with a decorative cornice, multi-light steel windows, and a late 20th century gable roof replacing the original, was used partially for office space and partially for cutting leather shoes. Later buildings, including a deteriorating water tank, three connected concrete, end-gabled "hide houses", and a one-and-one-half-story gable-roofed structure on concrete block piers with a porch, are located to the west of the main building. The tannery complex was considered locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Architecture and Industry, with a period of significance of circa 1880-1956, though it is acknowledged that the complex continued in use until the 1980s. The committee recommended **eligible** with **33 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: This PIF provides a fascinating account of the leather tanning process as it was carried out at the Deford facilities in Luray, later operated by the Virginia Oak Tannery company. On the basis of this account, the full nomination can argue effectively for the historic significance of this resource under Criterion A for the economic role that the tannery played both locally and nationally. Changes in the tanning industry throughout the twentieth century, as traced in the structures of this resource, also add to its significance. No indication is given in this PIF of why the tannery site might be significant under Criterion C for architecture. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

Roanoke Region.....Presented by Michael Pulice

7. Holbrook House, Russell County, DHR File # 083-5156

Staff Comments: The primary resource is a large two-story frame house, constructed in several phases, with a side-gabled roof covered in sheet metal. Within the larger structure is an undated two-story log structure, presumably constructed before 1880. Post-dating this is a balloon frame addition with a central hall and large room on each floor, and finally a frame rear ell. The log section has a basement with visible unhewn log floor joists, while the entire exterior is covered with aluminum siding, presumably over weatherboards. Windows are primarily 6/6 double hung sash, while the interior is clad in flush boards. Interior fireplaces have been either in-filled with brick or converted to coal burning, and have plain Greek-Revival derivative mantels. There are five log dependencies, including a barn, a smoke/meat house, a corncrib and two unidentified outbuildings. The property covers approximately 160 acres and is currently owned by the Nature Conservancy. It was considered locally significant under Criteria A and C with a period of significance from ca. 1880 to 1956, in the areas of architecture and agriculture. The committee recommended **eligible** with **31 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: If the completed nomination pursues recognition under A, a strong argument for the historic significance of this resource in the broad patterns of local, regional, or national history will have to be made. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties. Concern was also expressed at the meeting regarding the Nature Conservancy's plans to tear down the house, and the Board urged DHR to encourage preservation of the property through easements. This PIF gives no indication for nomination under Criterion A.

The following Roanoke Region properties were approved by the Board through a consent agenda:

8. Fayette Street Historic District, City of Martinsville, DHR File # 120-5003

Staff Comments: The proposed historic district is comprised of a paved, two-lane street extending west from Market Street four to five blocks, to Memorial Avenue. The organizing element of the district is its reputation as an African-American commercial and institutional center, from the early 20th century. The first two blocks of the street are primarily one- and two-story commercial buildings, with interspersed residential buildings. The remaining blocks are primarily residential, with several churches and parking lots. The resources include early to mid-20th century styles including the vernacular, commercial, Bungalow/Craftsman, Tudor-Revival and American Foursquare. The first two blocks have seen some alteration of commercial and residential buildings, but the remaining blocks display a high degree of integrity. The area developed from the early tobacco factories located in the area in the early 20th century, to become a fully developed African-American community, providing services and institutions, as well as a prominent residential neighborhood. Fayette Street was considered under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1905-1956. It was awarded one bonus point for its illustration of Ethnic and Cultural Minority

History. The committee expressed concern with the vernacular nature of the architecture, but agreed to recommend **eligible** with **32 points**, only under Criterion A.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: This PIF indicates that significant resources exist in the proposed Fayette Street district representing the role of social institutions, fraternal organizations, recreation, and employment in African American life in Martinsville. These resources should be fully explored in an argument for significance of the proposed district under Criterion A in the National Register nomination to follow. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

9. Arthur, John House, Franklin County, DHR File # 033-0001

Staff Comments: The resource is a c.1840s brick, two-story, single dwelling. The property only includes a dwelling (a nearby associated cemetery is not included-it is located within a separate private property). A DSS query for all resources in Franklin County dating to between 1840 to 1860 yielded only 44 results (out of 593 records for the whole county). The intact house is more rare. The resource is recommended locally significant under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance of 1846 to 1956 (a better end period may be developed with more nomination research). The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **31 points**.

10. Fieldale Historic District, Henry County, DHR File # 044-5173

Staff Comments: The PIF is the result of a Cost Share project. The resource is a textile factory company town that was built all in one campaign during the early 20th century by the Marshall Field Company (Chicago); “Fieldcrest” is one of the brand names produced in the town. The Historic District is essentially the complete town, including about 250 buildings (225 of which are contributing). The resource is recommended locally significant under Criteria A (Industry, Commerce) and C (Architecture), with a period of significance of 1920 to 1956. The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **36 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: The Fieldale Historic District will be an important nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the most should be made of the significant resources within the district. Under Criterion A the development of the community should not only be discussed but the connection between Fieldale and national economic developments should also be explored. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

11. Piedmont Mill Historic District, Franklin County, DHR File # 033-5224

Staff Comments: The resource is a c.1870s gristmill (File 033-0406), frame, three-and-a-half stories; with millrace, milldam, pole barn, two 1870s frame dwellings (including miller’s house), and a 1929 metal bridge (Roanoke Bridge Company/File 033-5003). The mill has a very fine collection of late 19th century and early 20th century milling machinery (sifters, chutes, cabinets, belts, drive system) with some of its earlier stones, and a metal mill wheel. A DSS query for mills in Franklin County between 1850 and 1930 yielded only 2 results, and a query for all mills yielded only 10 results (from 593 total surveyed resources for Franklin County). The complex is moderately rare. The resource is recommended locally significant under Criteria A (Commerce, Industry, Engineering, Transportation) and C (Architecture), with a period of significance of c.1870 to c. 1956. The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **36 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: Criterion A is indicated for this PIF, but no justification is provided for the significance of this resource in the broad pattern of local or regional history. Mills provide vital economic services for communities, and they often become places where people gather for a variety of social purposes. These functions, however, should not be presumed in the National Register Nomination to follow, they need to be discussed and demonstrated in the specific context of the Piedmont Mill. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

12. Sims-Mitchell House, Pittsylvania County (Town of Chatham), DHR File # 187-5002

Staff Comments: The resource is an Italianate (Italian Villa) style residence, 2.5 stories, flush-board clad frame with a brick foundation on less than 2 acres of land. The house is well outside the Chatham Historic District. The house dates to 1875 and has a well-defined 1918 addition on the rear (filling in the ell). The owner’s plat sketch indicates a 1955 cottage, a cobblestone road trace, and sites for kitchen, stable and brick kiln site. The house’s early owners, James M. Whittle and William E. Sims have interesting direct associations to regionally significant political events-Readjuster movement and Republican Party. The

resource is recommended locally significant under Criteria B (Person- William E. Sims), C (Architecture), with potential for Criterion D; with a period of significance of 1875 to 1956 (a better end date may be determined with further research). The committee recommends **individually eligible** for listing at **33 points**.
Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: Although the 1883 Danville riot is of unquestioned significance in the political history of Virginia, the connection between William Sims and the Sims-Mitchell house to the riot is not clear in this PIF. The completed nomination will, of course, need to explore and describe this connection much more fully. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

Tidewater Region.....Presented by Camille Bowman

13. Mount Sinai Baptist Church and Cemetery, City of Suffolk, DHR File # 133-5249

Staff Comments: Mt. Sinai is a masonry Victorian Gothic Revival style church, featuring two prominent towers flanking the entrance and a Classical porch with four metal Corinthian columns. The building has a side gable roof with asphalt shingles, and the façade features modillion cornices. The west tower has a crenellated parapet, while the east tower features an octagonal roof on top of a hipped roof. Both the east and west elevations are three-bay, with central oversized Gothic arch windows flanked by four light-windows surmounted by Gothic-arch windows. Stone articulation and Gothic arches within the gables are visible. In 2000, an addition of wood frame clad in brick veneer was added, with a gable roof and 8/8 vinyl double-hung sash windows. The addition also features a dropped ceiling. A cemetery is located south of the church, containing family plots dating from the early 20th century through the present, with headstones and footstones as well as tombs. The resource was considered locally under Criterion C for its Victorian Gothic Revival style, with a period of significance of 1921. Three points were added for its illustration of the history of Ethnic and Cultural Minorities, but a point was removed for contextual integrity, as well as one for integrity of design. The committee recommended **eligible** with **37 points**.
Board Comments: Discussion was raised about the confluence of the terms “Classical” and “Victorian”, and the care which needs to be taken with architectural terms.

14. Norfolk United Methodist Church, City of Norfolk, DHR File # 122-0110

Staff Comments: The committee initially reviewed the resource on April 6, 2006. The minutes read: “The resource is a masonry Romanesque Revival church, with a two-tower façade and side gable roof, built ca. 1890 on one acre. A two-story masonry education wing was added in 1916, which retains some characteristics of the church, primarily limestone-articulated rounded arch windows with limestone sills. The church is located in the Lambert’s Point residential neighborhood, surrounded by 20th century suburban development. It is currently vacant and the architect is unknown. The education wing has been modified with a dropped ceiling and the addition of a modern parapet in place of the original hipped roof. The resource was considered locally significant under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance from ca. 1890-1916, though the committee had reservations about its ability to meet the higher standards for religious properties under Criteria Consideration A. Concerns were also expressed about its integrity, based on the modifications to the education wing and the condition of the interior of the church, including missing ceiling plaster and the lack of many recognizably interior religious characteristics. There are three Romanesque churches listed in Norfolk, and it was not determined whether this property was exceptional enough to warrant listing. The church was found ineligible by the committee in 1996. The committee agreed to request further research on the property, including the name of the architect if possible. A recommendation was **deferred**. **Post Meeting Follow-up:** Wagner had shown images of the listed Romanesque style Epworth United Methodist Church during the meeting. Several other designated churches were mentioned as high points of Norfolk’s Romanesque style, they are: First Baptist Church, and Saint John's African Methodist Episcopal Church. These should be cited when the client is contacted about the results of DHR’s review.” Current Meeting: Camille Bowman requested that the committee consider the church’s original rural setting and purpose for a non-urban population, when compared with similar buildings in the historically urban areas of Norfolk. To address integrity concerns, she reported that much of the plaster is intact and can be restored, and the apse is still present despite the lack of a pulpit. Changes made to the rating sheet included: removal of one point for design, removal of one point for materials, removal of one point for setting, removal of one point for contextual integrity, and removal of two points for Historical Associative Value under Criterion C. The committee recommended **eligible** at **31 points**, but emphasized that the roof parapet remains an integrity concern because of the need to include Criteria Consideration A. The identity of the architect was again requested, as the property is eligible under Criterion C, and the committee asked for documentation on the original rural setting of the church.

15. Texas Company Building, City of Norfolk, DHR File # 122-0853

Staff Comments: The committee initially reviewed the resource on April 6, 2006. The minutes read: “The resource is a three-story, masonry commercial office building, built in 1917 in the Colonial Revival style, with terra cotta cornices and terra cotta veneers. It also displays the Texas Company’s logo on terra cotta beltcourses between the first and second stories. It is located on an urban lot in the Granby Street commercial district of Norfolk, on four-tenths of an acre. The architectural firm Ferguson, Calrow and Wrenn designed and built the building, and it was occupied by the Texas Company (now known as the Texaco Corporation) until 1960. It is currently vacant. The brickwork and survival of the corporate logo on the exterior, as well as the interior detailing, were presented as notable architectural features. It was considered as locally significant under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance from 1917-1960, but the committee decided it could also be listed under Criterion A (Broad Patterns of History). There are 1628 “commercial style” buildings in Norfolk in the general survey data pool. It was agreed to request more information on the commercial history of the Texas Company in the Norfolk area, as well as on the history of the corporate building design within the Texas Company. A recommendation was **deferred.**” *Current Meeting:* Camille Bowman reported that the resource is the only corporate building of its kind in the mid-Atlantic region, and that the Norfolk office gained regional importance in the 1920s with the closing of the Texas Company’s Philadelphia Division. One point, from the original 32, was removed, but five were added for the church’s Historical Associative Value under Criterion A. The committee recommended **eligible** with **36 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: Criterion A is checked on the cover sheet for this PIF, but the significance statement neither makes an argument for A nor does it indicate that A will be explored in the National Register nomination to follow. This confusion should be clarified. For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

Capital Region.....Presented by Susan Smead

16. Byrd Park Historic District, City of Richmond, DHR File # 127-6067

Staff Comments: William Byrd Park is a mixed-use park on approximately 274 acres. Most of the land was acquired before 1888, and was formerly known as Reservoir Park. There are facilities for tennis, baseball, picnics, community meetings or special events, and paddleboating, as well as a dog park. Notable features of the park include its collection of trees, most of which are deciduous, but also including evergreens and magnolias, and its three lakes. It was considered locally significant under Criteria A and C with a period of significance of 1874-1956, for the areas of Recreation and Architecture. Extra points were awarded for its visual prominence as a landmark and its exceptional landscape features. The committee recommended **eligible** with a rating of **37 points**.

Board Comments: Chair pre-meeting comments: Many of the themes described in the narrative history of William Byrd Park could provide justification for nomination of this resource under Criterion A, but the significance statement in the completed nomination will have to expand and develop them. A park is not by definition significant under the theme of recreation. What is unique and important in the history of this park, what distinguishes it from other parks, and what links it to regional, state, and national historical trends are all key questions to consider in the preparation of this nomination.

For additional guidance in developing and describing historical significance please also consult National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons is also useful for establishing the significance of historic properties.

17. Eubank Hall, Lunenburg County, DHR File # 055-0038

Staff Comments: The resource has an early frame story-and-a-half ell, possibly eighteenth century, and definitely no later than the first quarter of the 19th century. The larger house block is 2-story frame, vernacular Greek Revival style, with more rare chimney pots (found in Southside counties: Charlotte and Halifax). There are several potential sites on the 141-acre property. The resource is recommended regionally significant under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance of 1770s to c. 1849. The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **35 points**.

Board Comments: The Board Architectural Historian stated that the chimney on the rear of the house appeared to be 1820s-1830s, based on its bond pattern.

18. Edge Hill, Henrico County, DHR File # 043-0101

Staff Comments: The resource is a one-story “raised cottage”, built ca. 1820-1840, the only ante-bellum “raised cottage” of its kind in Henrico County. The house’s exterior is of pine clapboard over a brick foundation, and features a double-pile, center-hall main floor, set above a raised English basement. There is a hipped roof, and three brick interior chimneys. It has had some modification, including the addition of a heat pump and central air conditioning in 1999, restoration of plaster picture molding,

recoating of the roof, and exterior and interior painting. The owner expects to remove two noncontributing sheds on the property. The house is on 1.5 acres, on a bluff overlooking the James River, and is shown as “Kennedy” on the Michie map of 1865, though early records indicate the name Edge Hill as early as 1793. Several artifacts have been found on the property, though there has been no archaeological survey. The resource’s level of significance was considered regional under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance of the second quarter of the 19th century. Two points were added for it as an unusually good representative of type, one for exceptional potential for further study (to include archaeological potential), one for its visual prominence as a landmark, and one for the level of regional representation on the register. The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing with **39 points**.

Board Comments: The Board requested that the possibility of Edge Hill being used as a signal station during the Civil War should be verified, or dropped from the forthcoming nomination.

19. Preston Court Apartments, City of Charlottesville, DHR File # 104-0239

Staff Comments: The resource is a three-story masonry (brick) apartment building dating to 1928. The building is located in the Corner and Rugby Road Historic District. The U-shaped building is executed in high-style Georgian design, a work by Stanislaw Makielski (Born in South Bend, Indiana, educated: Notre Dame and graduate of the first class of UVA Architecture School; UVA professor from 1921 to 1964). Preston Court Apartments appears to be one of his earlier projects (the 3rd). The resource is recommended locally significant under Criterion C (Architecture), with a period of significance of 1928. The Committee questioned the value of listing an individual building that was already contributing to the Historic District. There was some interest in exploring the drafting of a policy on individually listed buildings in historic districts (an idea that could be part of the discussion about SOPs and a Criterion Consideration G Policy). The Committee believed that Preston Court, while appearing similar to other buildings in the Historic District, may have a higher level of sophistication, but the final nomination will need to make a solid case for Makielski’s work (the rarity and sophistication). The committee recommended **individually eligible** for listing at **33 points**. Post meeting research: On DSS for Charlottesville (total of 841 records), there are 15 apartments for the period between 1900-1941 and 9 for the period 1920-1930. 3 Charlottesville apartment buildings in the database are classified as Georgian style. According to Wells’ The Virginia Architects (page 276) –Makielski designed two Fraternity Houses in the Historic District on Rugby Road and Madison Lane. The Preston Court Apartments appears to be his only large-scale apartment design during a career that appears to include about 15-25 known projects.

- * Cost Share Sponsored Project
- ** Certified Local Government
- *** Certified Local Government Sponsored Project